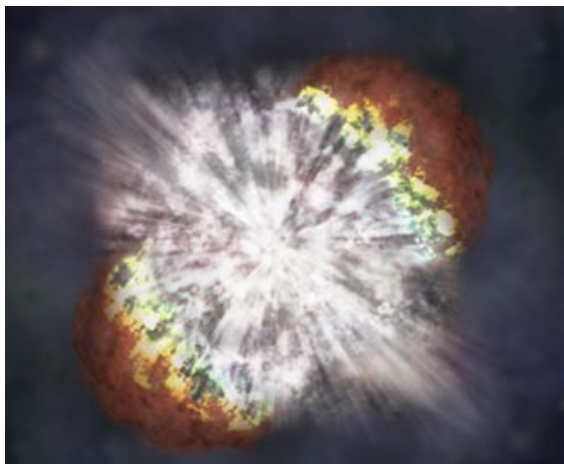


NASA Weekly Update

Week of May 7 – 14, 2007

May 11: Atlantis is 'Go' for Rollout: Good progress was made on the final repairs on Atlantis' external tank over the weekend. Space Program managers have decided to rollout the vehicle to Launch Pad 39A on Tuesday morning, with first motion scheduled for 12:01 a.m. EDT. After last week's rollout review meeting, NASA officials announced that repairs on the external tank on Space Shuttle Atlantis have been completed. For more information visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/shuttle>.

May 7: NASA's Chandra Sees Brightest Supernova Ever: The brightest stellar explosion ever recorded may be a long-sought new type of supernova, according to observations by NASA's Chandra X-ray



Artist's illustration of supernova SN 2006gy

Observatory and ground-based optical telescopes. Additional information and images are available at: <http://chandra.nasa.gov>.

May 15: NASA TV Broadcasts Cargo Ship Arrival to Space Station: A cargo ship with more than two tons of supplies for the International Space Station launched Friday, May 11 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. Expedition 15 Commander Fyodor Yurchikhin and flight engineers

Oleg Kotov and Suni Williams will receive the shipment of food, fuel and supplies on Tuesday, May 15. NASA TV will broadcast its arrival at the International Space Station. NASA TV coverage will begin at 11:30 p.m. CDT, May 14. The Progress is scheduled to dock automatically to the Zvezda Service Module of the station at 12:10 a.m. For NASA TV streaming video, downlink and scheduling information, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/ntv>. For more information on the space station and the expedition crews, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/station>.

May 15: NASA Updates Plans for Hubble 'Ring of Dark Matter' Briefing: NASA will hold a media teleconference at 1 p.m. EDT on May 15 to discuss the strongest evidence to date that dark matter exists. This evidence was found in a ghostly ring of dark matter in the cluster CL0024+17, discovered using NASA's Hubble Space Telescope. Audio for the briefing will stream live on the Internet at: <http://www.nasa.gov/newsaudio>. At the start of the briefing, images and supporting graphics will be posted on the Web at: http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/hubble/news/dark_matter_ring.html. For more information about the Hubble Space Telescope, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/hubble>.

May 11: NASA Completes Constellation Ground Operations Review: NASA has established a requirements baseline for ground systems to be developed in support of the Constellation Program. The systems requirements review was conducted at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida on May 5. After completion of all project-level reviews, the Constellation Program plans an integrated review in late May to update and synchronize all Constellation Program baseline requirements. For more information about NASA's Constellation Program, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/constellation>.

May 11: 25 Schools Join Unique Partnership with NASA: NASA welcomed 25 new NASA Explorer School teams on May 11, 2007, in a partnership to

inspire students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. NASA Explorer Schools provide unique opportunities designed to engage and educate the future scientists who may someday help advance U.S. scientific interests through space exploration. For more information about the schools and NASA's education programs, visit: www.nasa.gov/education.

May 11: NASA's SOFIA to be Rededicated on Historic Lindbergh Anniversary: On May 21, Charles Lindbergh's grandson Erik will help NASA dedicate a special 747 astronomy aircraft to the trailblazing aviator. May 21 is the 80th anniversary of Lindbergh's historic solo New York-to-Paris flight. For more information about SOFIA: <http://www.sofia.usra.edu/>.

May 10: High School Winners Chosen in NASA Aeronautics Essay Contest: NASA's Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate has identified the winners of its high school contest to describe "Air Transportation in 2057." Sarah Vaden from Roanoke Valley Governor's School in Roanoke, Va., and Emma Peterson from Burnsville Secondary School in Delta, British Columbia, won top prizes for their essays on the theme. For a complete list of all the winners, visit: http://www.aeronautics.nasa.gov/edu_fa_essay_contest_07.htm. For more information on NASA's aeronautics program, visit: <http://www.aeronautics.nasa.gov>.

May 9: NASA Finds Extremely Hot Planet, Makes First Exoplanet Weather Map: Researchers using NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope have learned what the weather is like on two distant, exotic worlds. For more information about the Spitzer Space Telescope, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/spitzer>.

May 9: NASA Selects New Members of Astrobiology Institute: NASA is awarding five-year grants to four research teams that will become new members of the NASA Astrobiology Institute (NAI). The new multidisciplinary teams are led by the University of Wisconsin, Madison; the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena; Montana State University, Bozeman; and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge. For more information about the NASA Astrobiology Institute, visit: <http://nai.nasa.gov>.

May 8: NASA Awards Innovative Partnerships Program Contract: NASA has selected the team of Systems Planning Corporation, Arlington, Va., with primary subcontractor Fuentek, LLC, Apex, N.C., to provide support to NASA's Innovative Partnerships

Program. For more information about the Innovative Partnerships Program, visit: <http://www.ipp.nasa.gov>.

May 8: NASA to Build New Stand at Stennis to Test Ares Rocket Engines: NASA will test one of the rocket engines it is developing for its new launch vehicles at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi. The agency will build a new test stand at Stennis for the J-2X engine. The engine will power the upper stages of NASA's Ares I and Ares V rockets. For more on Ares I, Ares V and the Constellation Program, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/constellation>.

Weekly Status Reports



Mission: STS-117 - 21st International Space Station Flight (13A) - S3/S4 Truss Segment Solar Arrays
Vehicle: Atlantis (OV-104)
Location: Vehicle Assembly Building
Launch Date: Targeted for June 8, 2007
Launch Pad: 39A
Crew: Sturckow, Archambault, Reilly, Swanson, Forrester, Olivas and Anderson
Inclination/Orbit Altitude: 51.6 degrees/122 nautical miles

Mission: STS-118 - 22nd International Space Station Flight (13A.1) - S5 Truss Segment
Vehicle: Endeavour (OV-105)
Location: Orbiter Processing Facility Bay 2
Launch Date: Targeted for Aug. 9, 2007
Launch Pad: 39A
Crew: Kelly, Hobaugh, Williams, Morgan, Mastracchio, Caldwell and Drew
Inclination/Orbit Altitude: 51.6 degrees/122 nautical miles



- **June 8:** Launch of Space Shuttle Atlantis from Kennedy Space Center for mission STS-117.
- **June 20:** NASA Day on the Hill in the Rayburn Foyer.
- **June 30:** Dawn launch from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station on a Delta II rocket.
- **Aug 9:** Launch of Space Shuttle Endeavor from Kennedy Space Center for mission STS-118.

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